

TOWN NEWSLETTER

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June 2006

CALENDAR

June 2, Friday Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Salute to the Mayors Dinner; 6:30 PM; Crowne Plaza Hotel, Palo Alto



June 4, Sunday LAH Town Picnic, Little League Fields, 1-4 PM

June 6, Tuesday Election Day, Don't Forget to VOTE! See www.Smartvoter.org for your polling place.

June 10, Saturday LAHHA Trail Ride; Meet at Town Ring 10:30 AM; See website at www.Lahha.org

June 22, 25; Relay for Life. Los Altos High School; Info: Jeanne MacVicar 917-7979

July 8, 9 Los Altos Art & Wine Festival. 10AM-6PM; Info. 949-5282

Public Education Progress Report

Perhaps no issue helps define community more than local schools. While Los Altos Hills has participated in three high quality school districts, there has been an erosion of public elementary schools from four to zero over time. The Public Education Committee was formed 2 1/2 years ago to study the issue and recommend actions. Earlier this year, the PEC voted unanimously to recommend redistricting, but split on the ideal type of redistricting.

The City Council chose to seek redistricting only if a negotiated solution could not be obtained with our public school districts. On April 27 the City Council decided sufficient progress had been made on a specific set of terms for returning public education to Los Altos Hills to make a negotiated solution the first choice. It is expected that the terms will all be agreed to by the school districts by the June 8th City Council meeting. Then we will proceed to legally binding agreements to ensure the permanent presence of a public elementary school in Town available to all elementary students whose parents' choose to enroll them. This solution both brings a community school into Town and provides the option of attending Loyola, Covington or Nixon elementary schools and maintains current boundaries for Egan and Terman middle schools, and Los Altos and Gunn high schools.



FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE OF LOS ALTOS HILLS PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

Term Sheet 30-day checkup

1. A public school at the Bullis-Purissima site

- Serves all residents of Los Altos Hills, both PAUSD and LASD sides of our town
- Signed agreement for 20+ years as a public school; longer term for specific town-funded facilities
- BCS on site so long as it has a charter

2. Bullis Charter School will be occupant so long as it has charter

- BCS will have space for 380 students with option (mutual agreement) to grow to 480
- LASD will have space for up to 100 students to support LASD programs (but not another K-6)
- Occupancy by Dec '07

3. For the first time ever, all LAH children have option to attend the same K-6 school

- Preference for LAH children who choose to attend BCS; no limit on PAUSD-LAH enrollment
- LASD and PAUSD will support a State Board of Education waiver for preference for LAH children
- BCS will receive funding from PAUSD, for PAUSD-LAH children who attend BCS (when LASD is Basic Aid)

4. New playing fields & Community center for LAH, at the Bullis site

- LASD will renovate the Bullis site, beginning in 2006, to the quality of other LASD elementary schools
- Town of LAH will provide funding to enhance the Bullis site; e.g. recreation, infrastructure, solar panels
- Bullis Foundation has right to fund construction of new buildings on Bullis site

5. BCS will receive support for a smooth transition

- BCS to be chartered by SCCOE; plan to transfer charter to LASD charter within 5 years of rechartering as permitted by law. Tied by both BCS and LASD to #6 below
- Shared site. As access is needed to multipurpose room or other shared facilities, BCS Superintendent and LASD Superintendent shall manage on evenhanded manner
- LASD will provide additional portables for BCS at Egan during the transition, to support growth and current educational programs. LASD shall also provide access to the Egan multipurpose room on an as-needed and as-available basis

6. Equal funding for all LASD public students

- Concept is for all students within LASD, whether attending BCS or District-run public schools to receive the same amount of tax-payers funding on a per student basis